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For Immediate Release

Contact:

December 12, 2016

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Police Complaint Working Group to Hold Public Meetings

(January 5 and January 24, 2017)

On April 26, 2016, City Council held a Study Session concerning the current police complaint process and the topic of Citizen Review. During the Study Session, Council reviewed report SS 2016-22.

As a result of that Study Session, Council directed Chief Anthony Cobb to form a Working Group which would be responsible for conducting research, gathering public input, and making specific recommendations for Council consideration.

In June 2016, Chief Cobb appointed eight community members to serve on a Police Complaint Working Group. Six City employees, including City Manager Dorothy David and Chief Cobb, also participate on the Working Group by hosting and facilitating the Working Group's bi-monthly meetings.

The Working Group held their first meeting on July 12, 2016, and since that time they have had eight additional meetings. The Working Group has conducted considerable research into the police complaint process to this point, and as a continuation of the process the Police Complaint Working Group also held two public meetings on October 10th and 13th for the purpose of gathering public input into the police complaint process.

The Working Group is preparing a set of recommendations which will be presented to City Council on January 24, 2017, but before they finalize their recommendations they will be presenting them and soliciting community feedback at a public meeting.

Citizens are invited to attend the community meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2017, from 6pm-8pm at Booker T. Washington School, which is located at 606 E. Grove Street, Champaign.

Although written materials will be distributed at the meeting, those materials are being made available in advance so that the public has an opportunity to review them prior to the meeting(s). Those materials can either be picked up at the Champaign Police Department Front Desk or accessed through the following link:

www.champaignil.gov/CRPC